IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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FIROOZ GHASSABIAN,	:
Petitioner,	i i
- against -	<u>.</u>
FATOLLAH HEMATIAN, BEHDAD HEMATIAN, HERTSEL AKHAVAN, and CLASSICOM, L.L.C., a limited	: : ECF Case
liability company organized under the Laws of the State of Delaware,	: Civil Case No. 08-CIV-4400 (SA
Respondents.	
IN THE MATTER OF THE ARBITRATION BETWEEN	
FATOLLAH HEMATIAN, BEHDAD HEMATIAN, HERTSEL AKHAVAN and CLASSICOM L.L.C.,	
Claimants,	
v.	:
FIROOZ GHASSABIAN,	:
Respondent.	: : :
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DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS

HERTSEL AKHAVAN, hereby declares under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the following is true and correct:

- 1. I am one of the Respondents in the instant action.
- 2. I submit this Declaration in support of Respondents' Motion to Dismiss.

- 3. I, along with Fatollah Hematian ("Effy") and Behdad Hematian (collectively, the "Individual Respondents"), and Petitioner agreed upon the terms of the joint venture which included the formation of Classicom, L.L.C. ("Classicom"), a new limited liability company that was to be owned 50% by Petitioner and 50% by the Individual Respondents.
- 4. The terms of the joint venture agreed upon by the parties are memorialized in two agreements, the Classicom Operating Agreement ("Operating Agreement") and a joint venture agreement (the "Enterprise Agreement") (true and accurate copies of the Operating Agreement and Enterprise Agreement (collectively referred to as the "Agreements") are attached to the Declaration of Hilton Soniker as Exhibit A and Exhibit B, respectively).
- 5. The Agreements provided for the Individual Respondents to contribute \$1,000,000 to Classicom's capital in exchange for their 50% interest in Classicom.
- 6. The Agreements provided for Petitioner to assign to Classicom certain existing patents for the Invention and all derivations thereof in exchange for Petitioner's 50% interest in Classicom.
- 7. Neither I nor any of the other Individual Respondents would have agreed to pay \$1,000,000 for the 50% interest in Classicom if Petitioner had not agreed to assign the patents for the Invention and all derivations to Classicom.
- 8. The Agreements provide "all disputes regarding any matter related to any of the provisions of this Agreement, or the interpretation of any of its provisions, shall be resolved by arbitration."
- 9. Since Petitioner and Effy are members of the Mashadi Jewish community, both having originally emigrated from the same Mashadi community in Iran, it was agreed that the

arbitrators of any disputes would be individuals who are respected members and leaders of the

Mashadi Jewish community living in New York.

10. In this regard, the parties identified Abdolrahim Etessami, Abdolrahim Zar and

Nassim Bassalian as arbitrators. All of these individuals are respected members and leaders of the

Mashadi Jewish community.

11. The parties never agreed that the arbitrators' decision had to be unanimous, and

consequently, the Agreements do not provide for the unanimous decision of the arbitrators.

12. In identifying the three arbitrators, I never intended that these three individuals

could be the only members of the Mashadi Jewish community who could serve as arbitrators;

rather it was my intention that these individuals or other respected leaders of our community

should arbitrate any dispute that may arise. If any one of the three named arbitrators is not

available to serve, the remaining two arbitrators should serve, or if the parties agree, a replacement

could be named.

13. It was always my intention that disputes between the parties would be settled by

arbitration before arbitrators who are members of the Mashadi Jewish community.

Dated:

June 18, 2008

New York, New York

Respectfully submitted,

Akhavar.

Hertsel Akhavan

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